



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08038.0021

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Yasuo KOBAYASHI ) Group Art Unit: 1746  
)  
Serial No.: 09/655,787 ) Examiner: Carrillo, B.  
)  
Filed: September 6, 2000 )  
)  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR )  
SURFACE TREATMENT )

8/B  
BH  
7/24/02

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND**  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In a restriction requirement dated July 2, 2002, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I, claims 14-20, drawn to a method of treating a surface, and Group II, claims 21-28, drawn to an apparatus. Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group II, claims 21-28.

Prior to examination of this application, please enter the following amendments.

**In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 21-27 as follows. See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the claim amendments.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

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